Bound 10/24

Short of 24

In Reply Refer To:
Region 2/ES-SE

CL9-36

L4-4
SONOR

TC,T & 1 1005

Ms. June Ringer 129 East Fairview Avenue, Apt. 2 Glendale, California 91207

Dear Mr. Ringer:

Thank you for your letter of September 12, 1996, to Kathleen McGinty, Director, White House Office on Environmental Policy. Director McGinty has requested that I respond to you directly. You wrote about your concern that the U.S. Air Force's low-level supersonic flights and bomb practices were jeopardizing the endangered Sonoran pronghorn antelopes in the Arizona Sonoran Desert.

The Fish and Wildlife Service shares your concern for the pronghorn and is presently working with the Air Force to assure that actions taken by the Air Force do not jeopardize the species. On September 3, 1996, the Air Force submitted a biological assessment to the Service regarding the effects of ongoing military activities at the Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Range on the Sonoran pronghorn. The Endangered Species Act prohibits Federal actions from jeopardizing the continued existence of a listed species. If, during this consultation process, the Service finds that the Air Force's actions are likely to jeopardize the Sonoran pronghorn, the Service will work with the Air Force to modify the action to avoid jeopardizing the species.

I hope this letter addresses your concerns. If you have further questions, please contact Sam Spiller, Supervisor, Phoenix Ecological Services Field Office at (602) 640-2720.

Sincerely,

18 . yns. B. Starnes

स्टब्स् Regional Director

cc: Secretary, DOI, Washington, D.C. (OES - 3 copies)

Director, FWS, Washington, D.C. (CCU) (LS) (AES/TE)

Supervisor, Ecological Services Field Office, Phoenix, AZ

REGION 2

RD 001

GM (U/P) GM(AR)

GM (G/L/E/ET)

DRD GM (G/L)

AEA

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AHR

ALE R&R

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## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

## DO NOT REMOVE THIS SLIP FROM CORRESPONDENCE

Record No. Bureau No. Exec Sec No. CCU96-02051 117312 11772

Office From / To Incoming Date  $R_{2}$ 09/12/96 RINGER

Asgn To / Int By Signature Level R

Synopsis

OPPOSES THE AIR FORCE'S CONTINUED USE OF THE SONORAN DESERT FOR BOME PRACTICE. BOMBING JEOPARDIZES THE ENDANGERED SONORAN PRONGHORN

ANTELOPES. LTR REFERRED FROM CEQ (UMHOFER)

| ASSIGNMENTS |          |                         |          |          |  |  |  |
|-------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|----------|--|--|--|
| ROUTED TO   | MAILSTOP | ACTION                  | DATE     | DUE      |  |  |  |
| x/2         |          | 1 Prepare Reply         | 09/17/96 | 09/30/96 |  |  |  |
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FAX TRANSMITTAL

NSN 7540-01-317-7368

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

- Prepare Draft Reply

- Prepare Reply

For Appropriate Action Surname

ACTION CODES Signature

- For Information 5

8 - Other - See Comments 9 - Mail/Distribute

- Revise - Obtain Additional Surnames

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR TASKING PROFILE

Date Printed:

09/17/96

ACCN #: 117312

Open/Closed Status:

Fiscal Year: 96

| Received Date | Document Date | Due Date | Action<br>Office | Action<br>Required |
|---------------|---------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| 09/17/96      | 09/12/96      | 10/03/96 | FWS              | DR                 |

Addressee: Secretary Babbitt

From:

Ringer, June

129 East Fairview Avenue, Apt. 2

Glendale, CA

Subject Text: Opposes the Air Force's continued use of the Sonoran Desert for bombing practice. The bombing jeopardizes the endangered Sonoran pronghorn antelopes. Ltr referred from CEQ(Umhofer) for DR. Please provide ES with a copy of

response.

Recommended Surnames:

Copies To:

ES:PL

Cross-Reference:

Special Interest:

Special Interest Id:

SRO Analyst ES Phone Source RLBURCH RBURCH PM 208-3569

## **EXPEDITE**

M 004

September 12, 1996

966191 438

SEP | 6 1996

Kathleen A. McGinty, Director White House Office on Environmental Policy 360 Old Executive Bldg. Washington, DC 20501

Dear Director McGinty:

Please oppose and work to stop the U.S. Air Force's continuing bombing in southwestern Arizona's Sonoran Desert that jeopardizes the endangered Sonoran pronghorn antelopes.

There are only about 420 to 550 of these Sonoran pronghorn left. Between about 120 and 250 of these endangered animals survive in the United States, and Mexico has a population of about 300.

I am outraged that the U.S. Air Force acts as if it is not covered by the Endangered Species Act, nor responsible to the Vast majority of taxpayers who support the protection of endangered species.

The U.S. Air Force should immediately end its low-level supersonic flights and bomb practice in areas where the endangered Sonoran pronghorn may be present. This species' population is so low and vulnerable that even a few accidental deaths at the hands of the U.S. Air Force would be ecologically, legally, and morally irresponsible.

Thank you very much for considering my input.

Sincerely

June Ringer

129 East Fairview Avenue, Apt. 2 Glendale, CA 91207

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

| TO:   | JULE FARRIER  | _ |
|-------|---------------|---|
| FROM: | Peter Umhofer |   |
| DATE: | 9/16/96       | _ |
| 4.12  | 219-2100      | - |

Number of pages including cover: 2

COMMENTS: REASE PERFOND PIRECTLY THANKS.



PHONE (202) 456-6224 FAX: (202) 456-2710 OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 360 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20501